

Fancy Pants Team 7_LIM599_WK07_Group Practicum 01 Appraisal
Pantsing the Patriarchy Collection
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Mission Statement

The mission of the Women's Library of Los Angeles (WLLA) is to collect and preserve primary materials related to the women's suffrage movement in the United States. Part of the mission is to present programs such as exhibits and lectures to teach the importance of gender equality. The library's purpose is to give voice to the unheard women within the suffragist movement for the betterment of our community. The library seeks to educate and inspire people of all ages, origins, and locations.

Collection Development Policy

Women's Library of Los Angeles (WLLA) seeks to continuously expand its collection of suffragette memorabilia, literature, ephemera, protest signs, and related artifacts in order to preserve the history of gender equality. The purpose of the collection is to educate girls and women of all ages about the hard work women have done before them so they too can continue to work towards gender equality in the United States.

Items accepted for donation will hold historical value as well as educational value for generations to come. WLLA works in conjunction with other historical institutions to host educational exhibits around the nation to encourage young girls and women to believe they can be an equal partner in the operations of human society.

Subject Scope

The following guidelines are meant to guide the general practices of Women's Library of Los Angeles acquisitions. Its full holdings display a valued diversity that reflects a history of exhibitions and scholarly projects by curation, collection, conservation, installation, exhibition design, and staff that have generated purchases that, at times, fall outside of the scope of the library's collection.

The library broadly collects all manner of items that pertain to fashion history from about 1600 to the present. Therefore, the library would focus on collecting:

- Fashion photography
- Fashion encyclopedias, and reference works
- Work and Military Uniforms
- Workwear

- Fashion design and designers, both Haute Couture and ready to wear
- Vintage clothing
- Accessories
- Fashion drawing and art
- Fashion magazines and books
- Footwear

The library will also collect items that are considered fashion adjacent, including items that are about fashion or are visually related to fashion. This may include:

- Design patterns, constructions, and sewing patterns
- Tailors and Cutters guides and books
- Costume design for theatre, TV, film & motion pictures
- Art and graphic design based around fashion
- Advertising based around fashion
- Blogs based around fashion
- Folk art related to design of clothing
- Music Fashion i.e Punk
- Doll and mannequins
- Textiles related to fashion

Formats

Women's Library of Los Angeles primarily holds photographs, artifacts, print, and manuscript materials. The WLLA has been created to ensure that these items are well collected and preserved. These types of materials will have a higher collecting priority. The exception to this rule is when the subject matter of an item is particularly important to the focus of the collection. This may include items that are considered "fashion adjacent". Part of our collection will include both born digital and digitized materials. Establishing an infrastructure for the preservation of these digital assets is a growing priority for the WLLA and the development of the digital archive.

Use of Materials

Collection materials shall be made available to the fullest extent possible without potential damage to the materials. Researchers and staff using the library materials in the Women's Library of Los Angeles must handle all materials with great care and observe additional regulations concerning the use of more valuable or fragile collections. Staff and users are responsible for any library materials they use and should always handle all materials carefully to avoid any damage.

Photo-reproduction of library materials always has the potential to damage the original materials. Photocopiers and scanning equipment are used by specially trained staff to ensure minimal

damage to materials. Where any form of reproduction may be detrimental to the material, the preservation of the material takes priority.

Exhibitions, by nature, expose library materials to light and other potential environmental damage for long periods of time. Therefore, exhibitions require that special attention be given to the physical environment of the exhibit cases and surrounding space.

Materials may be loaned for exhibit in libraries, museums, and historical societies which meet commonly accepted national standards as institutions. Prior to loans of materials, the requesting institution must submit a detailed description of the exhibition facility and installation procedures and must complete and sign a Women's Library of Los Angeles loan agreement.

Because of the unique and irreplaceable nature of many items in the collection and because of the public trust in which its collections are held, permission to borrow items for exhibition from the main collection is offered subject to several conditions. Requests must comply with any donor agreements and all copyright restrictions. The nature of the items requested and the physical condition of the items will be considered in view of the loan. Items are to be displayed in a secure area under stable environmental conditions with respect to light, temperature, humidity, fire suppression, etc. The borrowing institution must provide and demonstrate proof of insurance on the material to be lent at values assigned by the appraisal department. All aspects of the loan must be documented on a loan agreement form supplied by the appraisal department and must be signed by appropriate representatives of both parties or each institution in the case of a traveling exhibition.

Categories and Formats

Photographs: Photography collected is mainly from the United States and North America from the invention of photography to the present, primarily fashion photography, but can include portraits, images with models or others present if showing off clothing, or other fashion related items.

Printed Materials: These can include any and all items that are print-oriented including advertisements, posters, magazines, periodicals, reference materials, guides, and instructional materials that revolve around fashion.

Manuscript materials: The library makes an effort to collect any and all written materials that were created either by hand by one author, or designer or typed by one individual. The manuscript here is considered to be a work generally authored by one person and can include items such as books on fashion, biographies of designers or fashion works, journals of designers or artists, and sketches with annotations of various fashion works.

Artifacts: These can include any number of 3D items that range from sewing machines to garments. The museum will collect all forms of clothing, costume clothing, footwear, and accessories. These items are meant to be held for research and scholarly purposes, as well as exhibition and use in educating the public.

Acquisitions

Materials will be accepted into the collections according to the Donation, Assessment, and Accessioning Procedure for Women's Library of Los Angeles. Assessment will be determined by the appropriateness of the item or collection of items in terms of historical and research value, age, scarcity, as well as how well the material falls within the Women's Library of Los Angeles collecting scope.

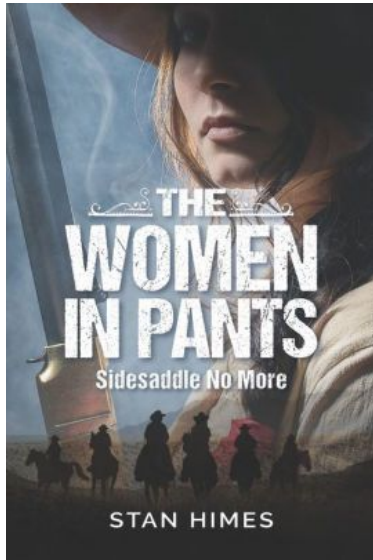
Accession forms will be kept in triplicate as permanent records and will include an accession number, title of collection, name and address of the source or donor, accession date, a description of the materials, and amount of material. Accession files will contain accession forms, supporting documentation such as inventories, finding aids, disposal information, and correspondence. Deed of Gift Agreements will be kept for all donated material.

Collection of Women in Pants

Collection Summary

Trousers are one of the common pieces of clothing worn by men and women. In the study of ancient history, many historians believe that trousers were worn by different societies. For example, in Ancient Greece, warrior women were depicted in art wearing trousers, and in Ancient China, historians believe that trousers were worn by working class men and women. By the 1800's, many women in the US were still wearing heavy skirts that were causing pain and heat exhaustion. That was when the first loose trousers that gathered at the ankles like many pants worn in the middle east and central Asia, known as the "bloom pants," were introduced. In the US, women mostly wore skirts; while there were some women who wore pants during the 19th century, pants were not accepted as an everyday article of clothing until the mid- 20th century (Britannica, n.d.). In the United States, Elizabeth Smith Miller designed an early version of pants-like clothing for women around 1851. It consisted of a skirt extending below the knees and loose "Turkish" trousers that gathered at the ankles, and it was worn with a short jacket on top (Western New York Suffragists, n.d.). During World War I, there were a few instances in which women wore pants, most commonly civilian and military women, both at work and socially. Although women continued to enjoy wearing pants after the war, particularly for sports or leisure, style trends for women remained fixated largely on skirts or dresses until the 1960s and '70s. Then, increased by the women's rights movement, pants became popular and appropriate clothing options for women at home, in public, and in many workplaces.

Printed Material



The Women in Pants: Sidesaddles No More

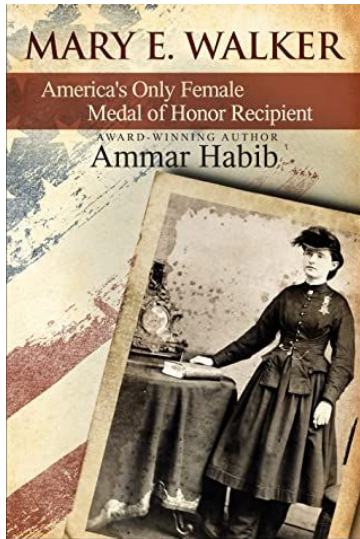
Publisher: Smashwords, Inc.

Author: Stan Himes

Link:

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-women-in-pants-stan-himes/1126422162?ean=9781370704637>

Description: In book one of the popular Women In Pants series, women trade dresses for work pants and take the reins in an adventure laced with humor and emotion. A sheltered ranch wife and her friends trade their dresses for work pants to take on the rigors of a cattle drive - but the challenges are even greater than they imagined.



Mary Edwards Walker: America's Only Female Medal of Honor Recipient

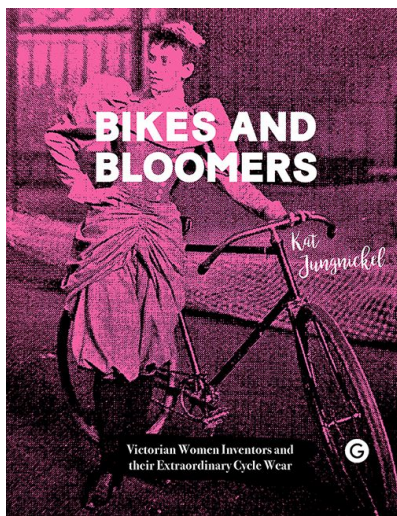
Publisher: A.H. Press

Author: Ammar Habib

Link:

https://www.amazon.com/Mary-Edwards-Walker-Americas-Recipient/dp/B0884HVCV6/ref=tm_m_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=1603658060&sr=1-1

Description: Mary was a leading suffragist, the first female surgeon to serve in the United States Army, and an advocate of women's dress reform, she was a woman who put the lives of others before hers. This book seeks to understand the woman behind the medal, discover the core of Mary's being, and the inspirations that turned her into who she was. 1832-1919



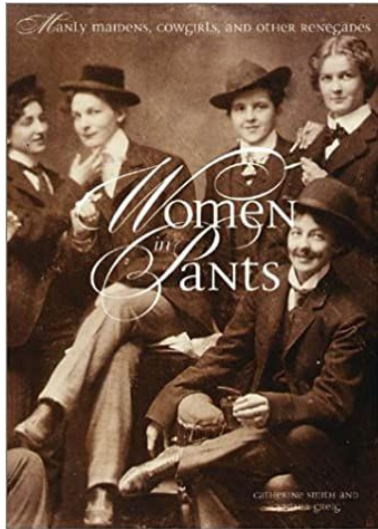
Bikes and Bloomers: Victorian Women Inventors and their Extraordinary Cycle Wear

Publisher: Goldsmiths Press (and MIT Press)

Author: Kat Jungnickel

Link: <http://bikesandbloomers.com/>

Description:



Women in Pants: Manly Maidens, Cowgirls, and Other Renegades

Publisher: Harry N. Abrams; First Edition

Author: Catherine Smith and Cynthia Greig

Link: https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/850230.Women_in_Pants

Description: Featuring an unusual collection of vintage photographs from the 1850s to the 1920s, *Women in Pants* documents an almost forgotten revolution in clothing.



Image: World War I (1916) women in overalls

Location:

Link: <https://www.seamwork.com/issues/2020/08/a-history-of-overalls>

Description of item: Women started wearing overalls during WWI. The men were leaving for war in Europe, leaving women to tend to farms, ranches, and factory labor. Women's dresses were getting in the way.



Newspaper ad for overalls after WWI

Link: The Vintage Traveler

<https://thevintagetraveler.wordpress.com/2017/08/08/women-in-pants-the-aftermath-of-world-war-i/>

Description: WWI ended in 1918, but work overalls continued to be offered to women. The illustration above is from a 1921 Montgomery Ward catalog.

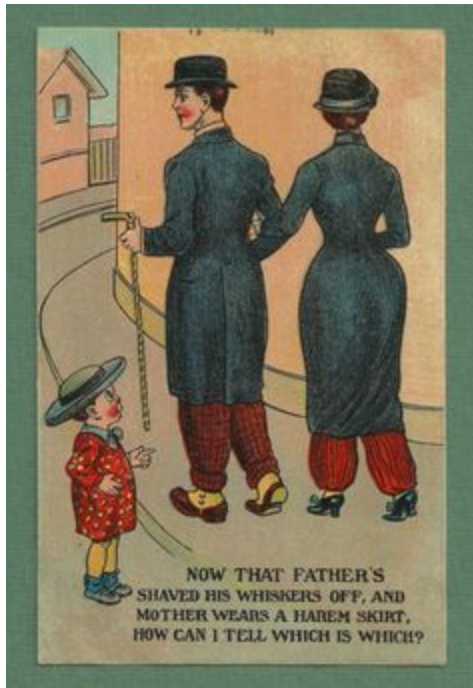


Image: WWII Air Raid Suit Sewing Pattern

Location: USA during World War 2 1940's

Link: <http://wearinghistory.clothing/phyllis-wwii-1940s-air-raid-suit-or-coverall-pattern/>

Description of item: Here is a 3D item we can add to the collection. This is a sewing pattern that women would use to make their own clothes during the war. Clothing was not produced on a mass scale like it is in 2020, but rather women gathered fabric from other places to later sew into clothing.

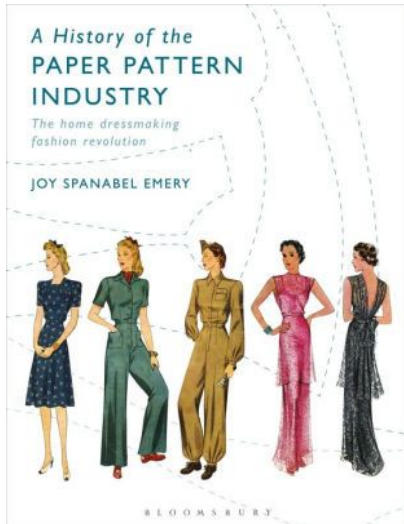


Postcard from 1914 highlighting gender inequality

Location: USA 1914

Link: <http://www.familytree.com/blog/suffrage-postcard-propaganda-in-1900/>

Description of Item: Postcard from 1914 propaganda belittling the changes to women's fashion by indicating how hard it would be for children to distinguish the difference between their mother and father.



A History of the Paper Pattern Industry: The Home Dressmaking Fashion Revolution

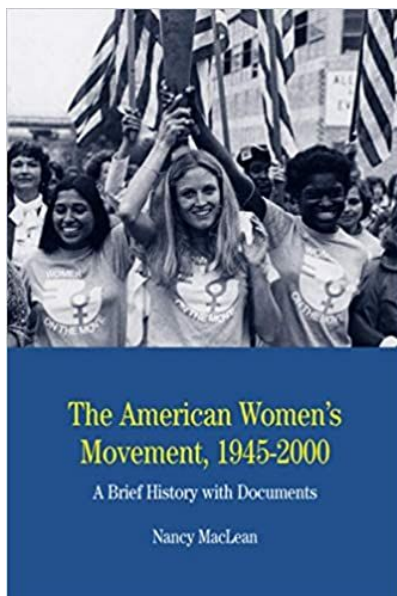
Publisher: Bloomsbury Academic

Author: Joy Spanabel Emery

Link:

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/a-history-of-the-paper-pattern-industry-joy-emery/1115783158>

Description:



The American Women's Movement, 1945–2000: A Brief History with Documents

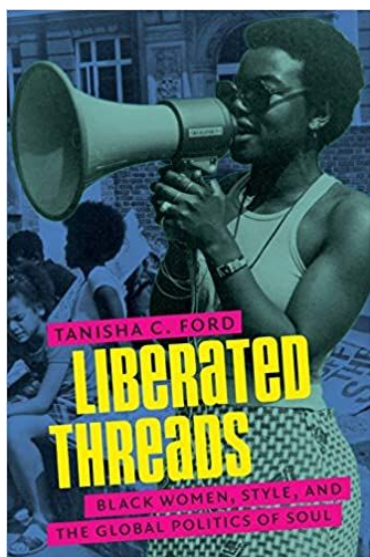
Publisher: Bedford/ST. Martin's, Boston, MA

Author: Nancy MacLean

Link:

<https://www.amazon.com/American-Womens-Movement-1945-2000-Documents/dp/0312448015>

Description: The introduction traces the deep roots of the women's movement and demonstrates the continuity from women's activism in the labor movement and New Deal networks, the Black Civil Rights Movement, and the peace movement to the height of Second Wave feminism and into the Third Wave. Topics addressed range from wage discrimination, peace activism, housework and childcare, sexuality, and reproductive rights to welfare, education, socialism, violence against women, and more.



Liberated Threads: Black Women, Style, and the Global Politics of Soul

Publisher: Greenboro Women's Funds of the University of North Carolina Press.

Author: Tanisha C Ford

Link: <https://www.amazon.com/Liberated-Threads-Politics-American-Culture/dp/1469636131>

Description: From the civil rights and Black Power era of the 1960s through antiapartheid activism in the 1980s and beyond, black women have used their clothing, hair, and style not simply as a fashion statement but as a powerful tool of resistance. Whether using stiletto heels as weapons to protect against police attacks or incorporating African-themed designs into everyday wear, these fashion-forward women celebrated their identities and pushed for equality.

Photographs



Two workers from WWI

Description of item:

The young workers above are wearing overall suits. But note the shoes on the woman on the right. It looks as if she has pressed into service an old pair of dress shoes. One had to make do with what was available.

Link:

<https://thevintagetraveler.wordpress.com/2017/08/08/women-in-pants-the-aftermath-of-world-war-i/>



Katherine Hepburn photograph

Philadelphia story in full wide flowing pleated pants

Photo: Getty Images

Link: <https://vintagedancer.com/1930s/vintage-wide-leg-pants-history/>

Description: By the 1920s and 30s, celebrities like Marlene Dietrich dared to wear full pantsuits to movie premieres (Dietrich's came courtesy Gabrielle Chanel), and the "most daring thing

about Katharine Hepburn” was her pants. Katharine Hepburn in the stage version of "The Philadelphia Story," late 1930s.



Image: Marlene Dietrich in Morocco (1930)

City: Hollywood

Link: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0021156/mediaviewer/rm2334350592>

Costume designer: Travis Banton

Description of item:

Marlene Dietrich was one of the first women in Hollywood known for wearing pants both on and off set. This photo is from the filming of a controversial scene in the film Morocco during which she performs onstage dressed as a man in a tuxedo and kisses a woman on the mouth.



Women wearing trousers during WWII

Photo: BERNARD HOFFMAN

Link:

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/the-history-of-women-wearing-pants-as-power-symbol_n_5a99bb95e4b0a0ba4ad34fe7

Description: In 1943, sailors admire women workers at the Electric Boat Co. in New London, Conn., where submarines were built during World War II

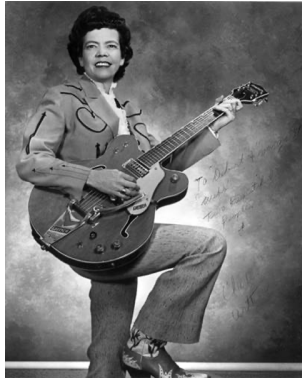


Image: Signed Photograph of Charline Arthur (1950s)

Description of item:

Charline Arthur was a country music artist and champion of gender equality in the music industry. She is recognized as possibly the first female country singer to wear pants on stage.

Link: <https://artandseek.org/2009/08/29/this-week-in-texas-music-history-charline-arthur/>



Yves Saint Laurent model 1960-1970's

PHOTO: REG LANCASTER/GETTY IMAGES

A model wearing a pinstriped trouser suit by Yves Saint Laurent. His plainer suit for evening wear known as "Le Smoking" became a signature piece. Yves Saint Laurent deserves a fair amount of credit for continuing to pave the way for women wearing pants for all occasions, with tuxedos for formal wear alongside gowns and women in safari suits. He was revolutionary in that he didn't feminize pants at all.

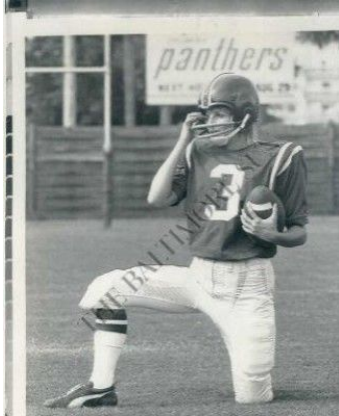


Image: Patricia Palinkas of the Orlando Panthers (1970)

Location: Orlando, Florida

Description of item:

Patricia Palinkas was the first woman to play American football professionally in a league made predominantly of men. She played for the Orlando Panthers in the Atlantic Coast Football League in the position of holder.

Link:

<https://i.pinimg.com/736x/fd/ce/72/fdce725ccda6e30c9df64bb93a2fb0c1--american-football-first-ladies.jpg>



Image: Rep Charlotte T. Reid at the US Capitol (1969)

Location: Washington D.C.

Description of item:

Charlotte T. Reid was the first woman to wear pants to the House of Representatives floor. This photograph shows her in the black wool, bell-bottomed pantsuit.

Link:

https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/reliable-source/post/update-first-woman-to-wear-pants-on-house-floor-rep-charlotte-reid/2011/12/21/gIQAVLD99O_blog.html

Photographer: Matthew Lewis



Senators Patty Murray, Barbara Mikulski, Barbara Boxer, (back row) Carol Moseley Braun, and Diane Feinstein (front row) in 1992, a year before Mikulski and Moseley Braun, on separate occasions, bucked the “no pants” rule in the Senate.

Photo: Wikimedia Commons

In the beginning of 1993, a number of female senators wore pantsuits in protest of an ancient rule of the official Senate dress code, and it was finally amended later that year.



Image: Zainab Jah as Hamlet (2015)

City: Philadelphia

Description of item:

Zainab Jah is one of the (if not the) first black woman to play Hamlet. This photograph comes from the historic production that went up at the Wilma Theater in 2015.

Link: http://phindie.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/hamlet-293_by_iziliaev.jpg

Photographer: Alexander Iziliaev

Costume designer: Vasilija Zivanic

Artifacts



Item origin: “Turkish Pantaloons and knee length skirt” or bloomers under skirts

City: New York City

Link: <http://www.nyhistory.com/gerritsmith/esm.htm>

Description of Item: 1850 was the start of women constructing pants under their victorian era skirts. The pantaloons were made popular by Amelia Bloomer in The Lily. These pants were worn by Elizabeth Smith Miller, who advocated for the women’s rights movement in the mid 1800s. The New York Public Library holds these pantaloons in their ESM Collection.



Item origin: Victorian Cycling Bloomers

Location: Arkansas

Link: <https://www.arkansasoutside.com/a-woman-two-wheels-and-a-wager/cycling-dress/>

Description of Item: These are cycling bloomers from the later part of 1800s. These types of garments were worn when women would ride bicycles for sport, pleasure, or for just transportation. The bloomers were meant for ease of use and functionality when riding a bicycle as the long dresses and gowns of the Victorian era would be a hazard when riding. However because the bloomers evoked masculinity and were seen as trousers, women wearing them would face physical attack by men throwing rocks at them or could be barred entry from certain places because the trousers were unladylike.



Item origin: 1900 Knickerbockers

Location: New York

Link: <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/106525>

Description of Item: Knickerbockers, the updated version of the bloomer and followed in the same style to allow for more freedom of movement than the traditional women's clothing of the era. Again these styles of baggy trousers were meant for sport and recreational activities however women in the 1920s and 30s would wear them for fashion and for fun. Again subverting the societal norm of women only being allowed to wear dresses.



Item: 1910s-20s Riding Habit

Location: New York City

Link:

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/92012?searchField=All&sortBy=Relevance&ft=women+riding+habit&offset=20&rpp=20&pos=22>

Description of Item: This is a riding habit that represents the style of the Edwardian era to the 1920s. The riding habit is the clothing worn by women when they would be riding a horse for sport or pleasure. The garment is meant to be seen as a uniform and follows the figures of a man's suit. The riding habit is about function and form and thus was meant to aid the user in being able to ride, hence the trousers over a skirt. It should also be said that having trousers removes the idea that a woman should ride in the traditional "side saddle" way which is how women were taught to ride during the Victorian era.



Image: 1930 Chanel Bathing suit (pants!)

Location: N/A

Link: <http://strawberige.blogspot.com/2012/03/1930s-street-style.html>

Description of item: 1930s Chanel brand clothing designed a bathing suit that was respectable by not revealing much of the woman's body.



Item: 1939-40 Pantsuit

Location: New York City

Link:

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/156633?searchField=All&sortBy=Relevance&ft=women+pants&offset=20&rpp=20&pos=23>

Description of Item: This is a pantsuit from the 1930s. Women wearing suits with trousers and trousers at all during the 1930s was outside of the cultural norm. Trousers and suits were regarded as menswear and only meant for men, and the women who did wear trousers were breaking style and social rules. If a woman did wear a suit at this time the lower portion was generally made up of a skirt or dress.



Item: 1970s Pantsuit

Location: New York City

Link:

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/83242?searchField=All&sortBy=Relevance&ft=women+suit&offset=60&rpp=20&pos=72>

Description of Item: This is a pantsuit from the 1970s. By the 1970s women in pants was not seen as socially unacceptable as they were before and thus having a suit with trousers became more acceptable. The wearing of pants is symbolic of power for women as the garment was so closely guarded by men and thus the wearing of the pants suit even in the 1970s signaled women breaking the patriarchy through clothing.

Manuscripts



Item: Bloomer Costumes or Woman's Emancipation

Location: N/A

Link: https://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/search/object/nmah_326088

Description of Item: This is an original drawing of women's bloomers from 1853 referencing the emancipation of women by wearing pants. One will also notice that that women are

consuming tobacco, another “masculine” trait that is apart of this emancipation process along with the wearing of the pants.



Image: Looks from Sub-Urban, Willi Smith’s Fall 1984 Collection for WilliWear.

Location: Rochester, NY

Link:

<https://www.wmagazine.com/story/willi-smith-street-couture-alexandra-cunningham-cameron/>

Description of Item: Willi Smith was a prominent fashion designer, primarily active during the 1980s, who despite working in the avant-garde and staging fashion shows that doubled as performance, focused his design on modern women on the street. This design rendering is from one of his collections featuring the city and streetwear of the everyday woman.

Appraisal Report

Value of the Collection

The Pantsing the Patriarchy collection is important to the Women's Library of Los Angeles (WLLA) because it is a visual representation of how fashion once confined women and how radical choices lead to women using fashion to liberate themselves. This collection shows how pants became a necessity for working women during the First and Second World Wars. The collection also provides sewing patterns that women would have used to make first their socially appropriate dresses, then later, utilitarian pants.

The collection specifically aligns with the Women's Library of Los Angeles’ (WLLA) Mission Statement by presenting printed materials, photographs, artifacts and manuscripts that speak to the struggle women had in society as they demanded the right to wear pants. As the role of women changed throughout history, due to war or innovative technologies, women wanted to

adapt to the current times. The existing patriarchy resisted the change in women's fashion by creating laws to restrict women's garments and choices. Nevertheless, women tenaciously pursued the pants. The printed materials narrate the journey from skirt to pants by using political and celebrity evidence to track the fight against the patriarchy to create gender equality.

Donors

The Women's Library of Los Angeles (WLLA) diligently cultivates relationships with past, current, and future donors in order to maintain innovative exhibits, challenging educational experiences, and inspiration for patrons. The Women's Library of Los Angeles (WLLA) values the donor and patron bases, for they go hand in hand to help build a quality library.

Institutional Value, Research Value, and Exhibition Value

a. Institutional value

From within this collection we have determined that three items exemplify the values of our institution by explicitly recording the efforts of suffragettes and average women across the United States seeking equal rights as citizens. The three books are titled *The Women in Pants: Sidesaddles No More* by S. Hines, *The American Women's Movement, 1945-2000 A Brief History with Documents* by N. MacLean, and *Liberated Threads: Black Women, Style, and the Global Politics of Soul* by T. Fords.

b. Research value

There are many items that would lend value to researchers that visit our institution. Many of the written texts offer research value for academic research. WLLA would increase the research value of both the printed materials and photographs by creating a digital database to access materials online. The physical artifacts may be represented in pictorial form online for research value; however, the physical artifacts will not be lent out.

c. Exhibition value

The physical artifacts, in this case, clothing garments, lend themselves to a greater exhibition value. WLLA plans to develop an upcoming exhibition highlighting many if not all of these items suggested for acquisition. For example, this proposal suggests acquiring the football pads and jersey for Patricia Palinkas from the 1970 Orlando Panthers Football team. The exhibit could display the Panthers jersey, pads, and helmet on an Ethafoam figure next to Palinkas' enlarged photo on the field.

2. Why we recommend items for acquisition

We are recommending the items for the acquisition because they are all items that are able to support our mission and have strong institutional, research, and exhibit value. There are numerous photographs, posters, and even sketches that all show how pants were used throughout the late Victorian and into the 20th century. By owning the

majority of these items the library is able to expand the way in which it can support academics, and even the public by being able to make them available for exhibition and for research purposes. Furthermore, the inclusion of the items is foundational to the library as they are a collection of historical items that have a memory of the women's movement through the lens of garments.

3. Budget *Creating in excel**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bsJE8T-gHhYDIFzbp7gQ11vm0e4tmvfs/view?usp=sharing>